

Mineralogical Society of America



www.minsocam.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



President Pamela Burnley

Announcing MSA's ECN

It is early fall, and once again MSA is closely monitoring membership renewals. At the moment, we are on track to match the steady decline in membership that MSA has been experiencing for many years. At a meeting of AGI's Leadership Forum earlier this year, I learned that with a few exceptions, declining membership is fairly common for scientific societies in the geosciences. Some might argue that "this is just the way things are right now,"

that the propensity to join societies is not part of modern culture and, therefore, declining membership is not something to worry about. After all, one might point to the fact that even with its smaller and declining membership, MSA is actually doing just fine, as it provides many services to the community, including running a flourishing publishing house; providing four lectureships annually, thanks to the generous contribution of Peter Buseck; making prestigious awards that promote the careers of young scientists and recognize the contributions of mid-level and more senior scientists; and hosting important community resources (e.g., databases, Mineralogy4Kids) on its website.

MSA also has a healthy endowment for its size and is led by extremely competent staff. However, if only a few people are directing MSA's vision and steering its course for the future, its ability to truly serve the scientific community is at risk. A larger spectrum of viewpoints contributing to the leadership's decision-making will allow MSA to have the largest dataset upon which to decide how to steer its future course. Perhaps one of the most effective means of ensuring that we have a broad spectrum of viewpoints is by making sure that scientists in the early stages of their professional careers, postdoctoral researchers, graduate students, and undergraduates belong to and are actively involved in MSA.

It is for this reason that I am particularly delighted to announce MSA's newest effort to reach out to, engage, and serve new members: the MSA's Early Career Network (ECN). The ECN was inspired by the Deep Carbon Observatory's highly successful ECN and further developed via brainstorming sessions with members of MSA's Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Committee, Membership Committee, and members of MSA Council. The ECN will be a self-governing network in which early career members of the society, and even those presently outside of MSA who are interested in participating, will help define the goals and outcomes of the network. MSA will support and assist the ECN with infrastructure for ECN communications and by facilitating connections between the ECN and existing membership. Numerous possible benefits of the ECN have been discussed, including mentor/mentee opportunities, a specific listsery for the ECN, and the opportunity to interface with MSA members at more advanced stages of their careers through symposia held annually at GSA and/or an ECN-specific symposium. Brainstorming sessions have highlighted the concept of creating a web-based platform for early career mineralogists to share their work with the hope of providing a resource for connecting with other early career researchers and fostering potential collaborations. Although the ECN is in its infancy, we hope that anyone interested in sharing ideas or participating in such a network will reach out to Ann Benbow at abenbow@minsocam.org to learn more about the next steps and how to get involved.

NOTES FROM CHANTILLY

2023 subscription renewals are underway. Prices are:

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| 2023 AmMin, Reviews, and Elements, US print and electronic, Institutional | \$1,325 |
| 2023 <i>AmMin, Reviews,</i> and <i>Elements,</i> non-US print and electronic, Institutional | \$1,340 |
| 2023 AmMin, Reviews, and Elements, electronic only, Institutional | \$1,240 |
| 2023 Reviews, US address print and elec institutional subsc | \$340 |
| 2023 Reviews, non-US address print and elec institutional subsc | \$415 |
| 2023 Reviews, e-only institutional subsc | \$285 |
| 2023 Elements, US print and electronic subsc | \$190 |
| 2023 Elements, non-US print and electronic subsc | \$205 |
| 2023 Elements, e-only | \$180 |
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Contact the MSA Business Office at business@minsocam.org to renew for the coming year.

2023 membership renewals are now underway.

The prices have not changed from 2022:

| Regular Member | \$85 |
|---------------------|------|
| Early Career Member | \$45 |
| Student Member | \$20 |

Encourage friends, students, and colleagues to join. Benefits include online access to *American Mineralogist* and *Elements*, as well as discounts on publications and registration for Short Courses. Members also have access to the MSA Directory. You can renew or join on MSA's new website: https://msaweb.org.

MSA'S NEW WEBSITE!

MSA is delighted to announce the launch of its new website: https://msaweb.org. This website is designed to make it easier to find MSA's many publications and resources, as well as to join or renew membership, find out about awards and grants, and communicate with the MSA Business Office. Please visit the site soon and let us know, via the Contact form, what comments and suggestions you have to make the new site the best possible.

2022 MSA ELECTION RESULTS

MSA is pleased to announce the results of this year's election for the 2023 Officers and Councilors:

| 2023 President | Jeffrey Post , Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC |
|---------------------|---|
| 2023 Vice President | Donna Whitney , University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, USA |
| 2023 Councilor I | Daniele Cherniak , University at Albany, SUNY, Albany, NY, USA |
| 2023 Councilor II | Melissa Sims , Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, USA |

MSA offers its congratulations to the Officers and Councilors and its thanks to all those who ran for office this year.

2022 MSA AWARDEES

At the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America, MSA was pleased to recognize the winners of its 2022 awards. These are:



Roebling Medal for scientific eminence as represented primarily by scientific publication of outstanding original research in mineralogy:

John Valley, University of Wisconsin, USA



Dana Medal in recognition of sustained outstanding scientific contributions through original research in the mineralogical sciences by an individual in the midst of his or her career: **Cin-Ty Lee, Rice University, USA**



MSA Award in recognition of outstanding published contributions to the science of mineralogy by relatively young individuals or individuals near the beginning of their professional careers:

Benjamin Tutolo, University of Calgary, Canada

CONTRIBUTIONS

Many members contribute to MSA by including a contribution with their annual dues and/or by responding to special appeals. Depending on the wishes of the member, the money is deposited with the principal of the MSA Endowment, J. Alexander Speer Outreach Fund, MSA Mineralogy/Petrology Fund, J. B. Thompson Fund, Edward H. Kraus Crystallographic Research Fund, F. Donald Bloss Fund, Peter R. Buseck Lecture Fund, and the newly established Annual Funding for current year projects. The income of these funds is used to support MSA's research grants in crystallography, mineralogy, and petrology; the MSA Undergraduate Prizes; the Mineralogical Society of America Award; the Distinguished Public Service Award, the Dana Medal; the Roebling Medal; the website; and the Distinguished Lecturer program. If you have not done so previously, please consider contributing at the next opportunity.

MSA 2023 DEADLINES

March 1, 2023: This is the deadline for applications to MSA's student research grants: The Kraus Crystallography Grant (one grant for \$5,000) and the Mineralogy/Petrology Grant (two grants for \$5,000 each). Information about applying and an application template are on the MSA website under Grants & Awards: https://msaweb.org. For more information, contact Ann Benbow at the MSA Business Office: abenbow@minsocam.org

June 1, 2023: This is the deadline for submitting nominations to MSA's four awards: The MSA Award, the Distinguished Public Service Medal, the Dana Medal, and the Roebling Medal. For more information about the awards and how to submit, visit the MSA website under Grants & Awards: https://msaweb.org.





MINERALS DAY

The third annual Minerals Day was celebrated on October 10, 2022, the Monday of Earth Science Week. The day featured live presentations by GemKids, as well as by celebrated mineral photographer, Jeff Scovil. New resources were added to the Minerals Day website, as well as a two-sided downloadable poster on "Minerals Around the House". Minerals Day co-sponsors included the American Geosciences Institute, Earth Science Week, Essential Minerals Association, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Gemological Institute of America, and GemKids. The web site is www.mineralsday.org.

2023 CALENDAR

The 2023 16-month calendar from Lithographie is now available on the theme of Tsumeb. The calendar is available from MSA for \$12. Look for it on the MSA website under Publications: https://msaweb.org.



EVENTS

2023 Tucson Gem & Mineral Show. Once again, MSA is a co-sponsor of an all-day symposium with the Friends of Mineralogy and the Tucson Gem & Mineral Society. The date of the symposium is Saturday, February 11, 2023 and the theme is Silica Minerals. For more information, visit the Friends of Mineralogy website at: https://www.friendsofmineralogy.org/

ELEMENTS JUNE 2022